

4/02/12, 7 PM

Meeting held at Joslyn Park.

Board Members in Attendance

Pauline Bohannon, Patty Godon-Tann, Sadat Huq, Jeffrey Jarow, James Lawson, Jan Ludwinski, Mary Marlow, Roger Swanson, David Tann, Bob Taylor, Marcy Winograd

Noticed Board Member Absences

David Auch, Ross Furukawa, Susan Lewis, Lori Nafshun, Michele Perrone

Introduction to OPA

President Jan Ludwinski called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

Announcements

Ongoing – A volunteer announced signature-gathering had begun to put Gov. Brown’s tax initiative on the June ballot. Signatures were gathered at the meeting.

May 1st – Memorial Day 2nd Annual Walk for Warriors, 8 AM 5K run Start/9:00 AM 5K Walk start

West Los Angeles Veterans Affairs Campus. Event will raise money for homeless veterans and veterans suffering from PTSD. Brendan McMahon, West LA Chamber of Commerce, made the announcement.

May 28th: 74th 11 AM Annual Memorial Day observance at Woodlawn Cemetery. Benjamin Steers, Acting Cemetery Administrator, made the announcement.

Board member Marcy Winograd wanted to make it clear OPA was not glorifying war or militarism; board members assured her the events were in honor of the soldiers and did not address policy-makers.

Patty thanked the board members who had attended the recent ribbon cutting for the first “Sustainable Living Street” (where walking, cycling, socializing, and driving cars become integrated activities) that was unveiled in the Borderline community.

Zina Josephs, Friends of Sunset Park board member, distributed a packet enumerating concerns about vagrancy at Common Ground, a drop-in center for homeless and addicted youth, relocating from 2012 Lincoln Blvd. to 2401 Lincoln (SE corner of Lincoln and Cedar). FOSP board members would like the city’s help in drafting a zoning ordinance³

change to restrict future location of social service agencies in Santa Monica and require conditional use permits.

Presentation: Resource Recovery & Recycling Programs

Wes Thompson, City of Santa Monica Division of Resource Recovery and Recycling Programs, introduced Kim Braun, Resource Recovery & Operations Manager. Kim shared a Power Point which highlighted the following:

*Trash collection days and collection routes may change after Labor Day. Residents will be notified in advance.

*Trash and recycling containers must be at the curb or alley no earlier than 4 pm the day prior to collection and no later than 8 pm on collection day. Residents can apply for variances.

*City's goal is to divert 95% of waste by 2030. Currently waste is sent to landfills in Puente Hills, Commerce, etc., while 10,000 tons of construction and demolition(C & D) material is diverted annually into recycling programs. Municipal codes require a waste management plan for C & D projects exceeding 1,000 sq. ft.

*Recycling Centers: Allan Com., 2411 Delaware Ave. & Toma Corporation, 26227 Lincoln Blvd. – Drop off sites for electronic materials. City is looking into curbside collection.

* Residents can put compost (vegetable scraps) into green bins previously reserved for yard trimmings.

*A recycling kiosk has been set up at 17th and Pearl. Residents can return recyclable to a vending machine. Bottles and cans are scanned and deposited for reward points.

* City has developed a hotline (310-458-4932) to report scavenging. Scavengers go into residents' bins to remove recyclables and collect money at recycling centers. This diverts money that would normally go to the city.

8AB32 mandates recycling for all businesses generating 4 cubic yards of trash per week; 50% of Santa Monica businesses surveyed do not have a recycling plan.

*Residents can stop junk mail by visiting www.smgov.net/ and clicking on Resource Recovery and Recycling Programs, then Catalog Choice to select which unsolicited mail they would like to stop.

*To address illegal dumping, city has a rent-a-bin program, allowing temporary rental of containers for special clean-ups and projects. City operates Tues., Thurs., and Saturday alley clean-up.

Treasurer's Quarterly Report: Patty reported the following:

Special Events Account: \$3,876.45

Regular/General Account: \$5,043.71

Total Quarterly Income: \$4,244.05

Expenditure: \$600 for storage

Actions Taken Since Last OPA Meeting

1) OPA sent a letter to Mayor Bloom, Transportation Planner Beth Rolandson, Planning Dir. David Martin, and City Manager Rod Gould in support of the subject grant from Caltrans for \$300,000 to conduct public outreach and conceptual streetscape design for Lincoln Blvd. from Wilshire to the south city limit. The letter noted that Lincoln Blvd. is visually cluttered, devoid of coordinated streetscape or landscaping and fails to reflect the design standards of other commercial boulevards in Santa Monica. The proposed grant would generate a community-based concept for enhanced pedestrian-orientation, activity centers that showcase quality design, improved landscaping, more trees, and street furniture.

2) OPA sent a letter to Jing Yeo, Senior Planner; Richard Bloom, Mayor; David Martin, Planning Director; Rod Gould, City Manager, objecting to omissions in the draft EIR for the Bergamot Station project. The letter said the draft EIR was incomplete in the following critical areas: regional and area plans; housing ratios and mix of types; a shared parking district and regional TDM plan; alignment with LUCE vision, goals and policies.

OPA President Jan Ludwinski had to excuse himself at 8:30. VP James Lawson chaired the rest of the meeting.

Committee Reports

Development: Mary Marlow expressed serious concern about the timeline for several development projects, noting that the public is not being given ample opportunity to read and respond to EIR reports.

The Board passed a motion, introduced by Mary, seconded by Marcy, to send the City Planning Department a letter objecting to the pace of meetings without a master plan for development.

Lincoln Blvd./Roger Swanson, Bob Taylor, and Gloria Garvin expressed concern over the Downtown Specific Plan (DTSP) presented to a joint Planning Commission and Architectural Review Board meeting on March 28, 2012. Concerns were focused on that portion of Lincoln north of the I-10, which was feared to spill over to define Lincoln south of the I-10.

Some of the objectionable or questionable parts of the plan include:

a) changing the name of Lincoln to 8th Street b) parking currently concentrated on 2nd and 4th, and the report does not address parking to the east of the retail zone. c) current gridlock heading north on Lincoln at Olympic is not alleviated; no need for a "visual gateway" since the traffic gridlock will signify one has "arrived downtown" – gridlock to worsen as Expo cruises down Colorado, one block north of the "iconic" gateway. d) two

way bike lane on the ocean side of Ocean Ave. might be a challenge for bicyclists heading north between southbound bikes to the left and southbound cars to the right.

Roger said the good news is that the Downtown plan is not complete with several more options to get involved. Committee members emphasized OPA needs to ensure the Caltrans grant money is not diverted to the 5 blocks north of the Freeway rather than 1+ mile south of the Freeway in SM. The timing of the downtown plan (2012-2013) should be complete before the Caltrans grant kicks in.

Membership Committee: Sadat announced the OPA Happy Hour/Mixer to be held at Brick and Mortar restaurant on Main Street on Thurs., 5-7 pm, April 26th. City Planning Commissioner Ted Winterer noted the OPA web site needed to inform visitors of the next scheduled meeting, date/time/place. Marcy agreed to help spread the word via media, both for the mixer and the next OPA meeting. Some expressed a desire to see the OPA agenda sent earlier to the email list. Patty suggested the agenda should be sent 10 days before an upcoming meeting. Sadat reported favorably on the new invoicing system.

Airport Committee: Surveys are still being completed, though those completed thus far reflect a desire to close the airport, or at the very least mitigate its impacts.

Outreach: Jeff reported the Main Street merchants had installed new bike racks on Main Street, putting them in red zones close to crosswalks.

Disaster Preparedness: Marcy reported Susan Lewis said she would create a generic leaflet for neighborhood block captains to use for planning meetings. Mention was made that the city will be conducting CERT training sessions in June.

4th of July Parade Committee: A planning meeting will be held soon.

Jeff moved to adjourn. Jim Lawson seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:02.